

2013-02-11 Wetlands Spc Mtg Minutes

Brooklyn Inland Wetlands Commission Special Meeting Minutes

The Brooklyn Inland Wetlands Commission held a special meeting on Monday, February 11, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at the Clifford B. Green Memorial Center, 69 South Main Street on the following:

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Real Gallant, Erik Costa, George Sipila, Lester Philips and Robert Rossi.

Absent: Jeff Arends and Melissa Labossiere with notice.

Staff Present: Chuck Dobrowski, Wetlands Agent, Audrey Cross-Lussier, Recording Secretary.

Also Present: Don Dubois, Joseph Theroux and Bill Carver.

Roll Call: All members present stated their name for the record.

Seating of Alternates: None.

Approval of Minutes:

1. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2013.

A motion was made by George Sipila to approve the meeting minutes of January 8, 2013, Robert Rossi seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. Erik Costa and Lester Philips abstain.

Public Commentary: None.

New Application Acceptance: None.

Reading of Legal Notice: None.

New Public Hearings: None.

Continued Public Hearings: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

Other Business:

1. Timber Harvest-Sansoucy, 248 Pomfret Road, Map 26, Lots 19, 19A and 20-1.

Joseph Theroux professional forester represents the Timber Harvest-Sansoucy, 248 Pomfret Road, Map 26, Lots 19, 19A and 20-1. The entire property consists of approximately 300 acres. Approximately 80 acres will be timber harvested. Mr. Theroux has marked the timber on the property for the applicant. The project is to expand an existing maple sugar operation. The majority of the property has a lot of small young sugar maples. The cutting of older mature red black oaks, red maples and low quality trees will be removed releasing the other sugar maple trees so they may grow. There will be two separate wetland crossings. Bill Carver demonstrates on a site plan where the two crossing will be located – one bridge crossing and the other a corduroy crossing, both existing paths. There will be no harvesting in any wetlands.

Discussion held.

A motion was made by Erik Costa to approve the Timber Harvest to be an as of right with the condition that the map marked up at the meeting is placed with the original application. Robert Rossi seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Timber Harvest-Gray Mare Farms, LLP, Herrick Road (south side) Map 25, Lot 36.

Don Dubois of Dubois Forestry and Land Management represents Gray Mare Farms, LLP. The property location is on the south side of Herrick Road. Mr. Dubois stated there is approval to expand the utility road right of way through Brooklyn and according to letters received by Mr. Dubois, construction will begin clearing the right of way by the end of 2013. Mr. Dubois demonstrates to Commission Members on a site map north of the utility road, is a 3.5 acre section of land which will be cleared, it is delineated and well defined. This area has good quality white pine which will be liquidated. It is a very small operation approximately 150 feet wide x 1000 feet long involving 21,000 board feet and associated pine pulp/top of the tree. There are two stream crossings – an existing skid road which has been used in the past. The first crossing has a rip-rap stone crossing in place. The second crossing consists of an old culvert and stone crossing. The rest is all upland and straight forward. The timber will be hauled by tri-axels about 3,000 feet per load approximately 7 loads. The duration of the operation is approximately 2-5 days. Now would be the best time to get this project done as the ground is still frozen.

Chairman Gallant asked Mr. Dobrowski for his comments. Mr. Dobrowski has been out to the site approximately 1 year ago and stated that at that time the crossings were in great shape.

Discussion held.

A motion was made by Erik Costa to approve the Timber Harvest to be an as of right use in a regulated area. George Sipila seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

3. Timber Harvest-Town of Brooklyn, Davis Forest, Salmon Drive/South Street, Map 45, Lot 1.

Joseph Theroux, professional forester represents the Town of Brooklyn, Davis Forest. The Davis Property is located at the end of Salmon Drive. The proposed is to remove about 141,000 board feet. To facilitate the timber removal seven separate temporary bridge stream crossings are required. Mr. Theroux discusses the site plan with Commission Members and demonstrates all seven temporary bridge stream crossings (C1-C7). Mr. Theroux also reviews the narrative of the project – Description of Proposed Activity; Timber to be harvested; Harvesting Equipment; Timber Harvest BMP's; Stream Crossings; Erosion and Sedimentation Control; Aesthetics; Other Concerns. Mr. Theroux stated at the completion of the job all of the main trails will be shut down which will divert ATV traffic. Mr. Theroux is asking for a jurisdictional ruling as a right.

Chairman Gallant commented that Mr. Theroux will have to fill out a specific Town of Brooklyn Timber Harvest form as well as a letter from the Town of Brooklyn authorizing such activity on the property.

Mr. Dobrowski will have Selectman Tanner sign the form and retrieve a letter of authorization. Mr. Theroux agreed to visit the Wetlands office to transfer the information onto the appropriate Timber Harvest form.

Discussion held.

A motion was made by Erik Costa to approve the Timber Harvest to be an as of right use with the conditions that the proper Timber Harvest form be signed by owner (First Selectman Austin Tanner) and a signed letter from the Town of Brooklyn authorizing Joseph R. Theroux to act as the Town of Brooklyn's Agent. Lester Philips seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

4. Review of Bylaws.

Commission Members discussed the current Bylaws. The following changes were made:

ARTICLE VII Election of Officers

Changes Made:

Section 4. Members may resign by giving written notice to the Chairman and First Selectman.

ARTICLE XI Disqualification

Changes Made:

No member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission shall appear or represent any person, firm or corporation or other entity in any matter pending before the Commission. A member of the Commission shall disqualify himself or herself from participating in the hearing or decision of the Commission of which he or she is a member upon any matter in which he or she is directly or indirectly interested in a personal or financial sense. In the event of such disqualification, such fact shall be entered on the records of the Commission and the member shall leave the table.

ARTICLE XIII Conducting the Public Hearing

Delete Section 6

Changes Made – to delete Section 6 as listed below.

The hearing shall be conducted in deliberations of the regular meeting of the Commission. If a general consensus of the meeting is desired, the Chairman may call for a show of hands indicating in favor or opposed to the question before the public hearing.

5. Review of Annual Budget 2013-2014.

Commission Members reviewed the budget. All members present agreed that no changes will be made and the budget will remain as is.

6. Update on Wal-Mart.

Commission members reviewed the Milone and MacBroom reports from 11/21/12 and 12/14/12. Discussion held.

Chairman Gallant requests that on a monthly basis when Mr. Dobrowski does an inspection he submits a written, dated and signed report to the Commission. Mr. Dobrowski will comply with this request.

7. Update on Land Use Administrator.

Mr. Dobrowski updated the Commission with regards to his retirement plans and will discuss this issue with

Selectman Tanner sometime in the next week.

Discussion held.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Erik Costa to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Lester Philips seconded this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

Audrey Cross-Lussier
Recording Secretary